



# Fluor TM News Flash

Fluor Toastmasters' Club   Club 3950   District 42

Spring 2009

Volume 2, Issue 3

## In This Issue

- Club President's Message
- Fluor helping our Community
- Member Spotlight
- Area 23 Contest Results
- Winner of the "Face the Un-familiar Crowd" Contest
- International speech contest results
- Roles and Responsibilities of 'Table topics master' at a TM meeting

## UP COMING EVENTS

### Division G Speech Contests

Saturday, April 18, 2009  
Location TBA

### Writing A Speech Educational Session

Thursday, April 30,  
12:00pm - 1:00pm  
Room SD1 W2-0308

### District 42 Spring Convention

Friday, May 1, 2009 – Sun,  
May 3, 2009  
Radisson Hotel Saskatoon

## Club President's Message

**Shelley Musfelt, DTM** (Distinguished Toastmaster)



We are three quarters through our Toastmasters year 2008-2009. It's now time to focus on club members goals. How is the goal you set coming along? Speak with Tammy Peters, our VP Education, so she can schedule you on the agenda to complete your speeches. Stay tuned for more speakers meetings in April, May, and June.

Let's also reflect on the past club contests (Evaluation and International Speech) and what we learnt from the experience. Club contests test our skills to face a different crowd. We may have learnt to become a better speaker, judge or contest chair or Toastmaster. Don't worry if you did not participate this time around, the next club speech contest is only 6 months away.

Time to start thinking about how you can help our club during the next Toastmasters year (July 2009 – June 2010). We need people to put their names forward for all the club executive roles and committees need volunteers (Contest, Newsletter, Social, and Debate). Please submit your name to Christina Kruis by end of April as the elections for club executive officers will be the first week of May.

We are also Facing the Crowd as our club membership is changing because of members leaving Fluor. Change is never easy and I encourage members who are leaving Fluor to stay with the club and/or transfer membership to another Toastmasters club. Keep improving your communication and leadership as these skills are valued by all employers.

Thank you to all who continue to support our club. We will succeed and meet our club goals if we all continue to "Face the Crowd" together.

#### Club Executive:

##### President:

Shelley Musfelt

##### VP Education:

Tammy Peters

##### VP Membership:

Arvind Simhadri

##### VP Public Relations:

Collin Tsui

##### Secretary:

Tiffany Yau

##### Treasurer:

Gerda Timm

##### Sergeant at Arms:

Marc Belisle

##### Past President:

Christina Kruis

---

## Fluor helping our Community

Fluor Communicators has been honored to sponsor the Okotoks Junior High School speech contest for the past ten years. The students in Grades 7 to 9 compete in three categories and the top three finalists competed on March 20, 2009. Shelley Musfelt and Shelley A Miller represented Fluor at this event. The sponsorship covers the gold, silver & bronze medals for the finalists. Shelley A Miller was one of the guest judges and Shelley Musfelt spoke to all the students, teachers and parents who attended. Shelley's speech focused on a poster which hangs in the office of the school. "Stand up for what you believe in, even if you are standing alone".

---

## Member Spotlight



**Wendy Swallow**

*Question.* What do you do at Fluor?

*Wendy:* I work with the Finance Department in the Project Accounts Payable group.

*Question.* When did you join Toastmasters, and what encouraged you to join?

*Wendy:* I joined Toastmaster in 2007. I wanted to overcome my fear of speaking.

*Question.* Tell us the benefits you have experienced since you have joined Toastmasters.

*Wendy:* I feel I've become a stronger more confident speaker since I've joined Toastmasters. I can communicate my ideas more concisely and I am able to organize my thoughts and responses more quickly when called upon to do so.

*Question.* What are the challenges you face as a Toastmaster?

*Wendy:* The biggest challenge by far has been to overcome the nervousness I experience when speaking in front of a group. I have improved significantly since joining Toastmasters I am happy to say. I'm looking forward to the day that I can speak in front of 100's of people with the same composure I experience when speaking with one person.

Fluor Communicators

Fall Schedule:

Tuesdays

12:05 – 1:00

Room SD4-1001

Visit Fluor  
Communicators Today

*Question.* What is your favorite sport or music and why do you enjoy it?

*Wendy:* I like all types of music except for RAP and Rave Music. I love to dance, I'm never going to qualify for Dancing with the Stars but I love to dance anyway.

*Question.* What would be your dream vacation?

*Wendy:* Spending an entire month in Hawaii!! Or the rest of my life god willing :).

---

## Area 23 Contest Results

**By Christina Kruis**

Hello fellow Toastmasters,

Congratulations to **Shelley Musfelt** who placed 2nd in the Evaluation Contest.

Congratulations to **Larry Dixon** who placed 2nd in the International Speech Contest with his speech "Hold onto the Rope, It's a Heck of a Ride!"

and **Shelley Musfelt** who placed 3rd in the International Speech Contest with "Everyday Heroes."

We are so proud of you both for representing Fluor Toastmasters with such grace, polish and style. We are all fortunate to have you as such professional role models in our club. Area 23 presented a very competitive line up of contestants and our Shelley and Larry took 3 out of the 6 awards presented. Very strong showing and thank you for sharing your talents.

Thank you to all our club members who were at the Area 23 Contest to support Shelley and Larry.

Join Division G Toastmasters at the next level, in Claresholm (Faith Baptist Church) on April 19th beginning at 1:00 pm.

---

## Winner of the "Facing the Unfamiliar Crowd" Contest

The results are in for the "Facing the Un-familiar Crowd" contest:

It's a tie:

Christina Kruis and Shawn Janke

They will split the prize (\$25 from the TI catalog for each)

## GREAT THOUGHTS

Everybody knows that its impossible to do so, as its impossible to do so. And then comes the one who doesn't know its impossible to do so, and he does so. – Albert Einstein.

\*\*\*\*\*

The significant problems that we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them. – Albert Einstein

\*\*\*\*\*

## International Speech Contest Results

By Shawn Janke

Everyone today stepped up to "Face the Crowd!"

As a club we have progressed so much in such a short period of time. This all comes from the dedication and support of our members, both past and present as was evident in our Contest today!

The First place recipient and our 2009 Fluor Communicators International Speech Representative is: Larry Dixon.

Larry speech titled, Hold onto the Rope, It's a heck of a ride! was an inspirational speech that revolves around never giving up in life. This speech is one that Larry has created as part of a message campaign to target youth and let them know that there is always hope no matter how bad life seems. I am sure that everyone in attendance today would agree that Larry does a great job in his delivery of this message and that it is very important message to get out to our youth today! Larry mentioned in his acceptance speech that he welcomes all feedback. If you have the time, you can help him out in one of two ways: 1- email or call him with any comments to help him fine tune his speech as he represents our club in the Area contest; 2- Contact Larry if you know of an opportunity that Larry can follow up on in his campaign to deliver

his message to as many youth in our community as possible. Larry can be reached at telephone number 403-278-9209 or e-mail calgarysrainbowthec clown@hotmail.com.

Larry will represent our club at the Area 23 Contest which will be held Monday, March 30th, at the Calgary Pace Setters Club in Midnapore. Mark the calendar now to come out and give Larry our support.

Congratulations also to our other contestants **Shelley Musefelt and Wan Gui Li** who both gave exceptional speeches today. I am sure it was a challenge for all of the judges.

John Barrie made some great remarks to all of our members present. He challenged them to step up and participate in all of the contests attesting to the benefits that you will gain as a Toastmaster by doing so. Just like our theme for the year "Face the Crown", we hope to see more members take this challenge in next years contests.

Many thanks to all the volunteers and who made this contest happen:

**Tiffany Yau, Mabel Zhang, Kerri Plewis, Guofang Jiang, Dan Burns, Hank Vanderland, Arvind Simhadri, Christina Kruis, , Marc Belisle, Jenna Jamani, Robert Donovan, Joni Lei Cardona, Gail Gibbs and Gerda Timm.**

## Just For Fun

A doctor and a lawyer were talking at a party. However, their conversation was constantly interrupted by people describing their ailments and asking the doctor for free medical advice. After an hour of this, the exasperated doctor asked the lawyer, "What do you do to stop people from asking you for legal advice when you're out of your office." "I give it to them" replied the lawyer, "and then I send them a bill" The doctor was shocked, but agreed to give it a try. The next day, still feeling slightly guilty, the doctor prepared the bills. When he went to place them in his mailbox, he found a bill from the lawyer.

Your commitment to our club and Facing the Crowd is what makes us so successful!

---

## Evaluation Contest Winners

CONGRATULATIONS to the Winner of Fluor Communicator's 2009 Evaluation Contest: Shelley Musfelt.

Shelley had a well-crafted, up-beat evaluation of Shawn's test speech. It was a pleasure to watch and listen to her show us all how to give a great evaluation. Shelley will represent our club at the Area 23 Contest which will be held Monday, March 30th, at the Calgary Pace Setters Club in Midnapore. Mark the calendar now to come out and give Shelley our support.

Congratulations also to our 2nd place winner: Larry Dixon and contestant Gerda Timm

Also to door prize draw winners: Helen Kelley and Robert Donovan

Many thanks to all the volunteers and who made this contest happen:

Kerri Plewis, Peter Valentine, Shawn Janke, Guofang Jiang, Shelley Miller, Hank Vanderland, Valerie Laidlaw, Christina Kruis, Tiffany Yau, Marc Belisle, Brendan Sawatsky, Farzana Shahabuddin, Tracey Otten and Leanne Crowther

Your commitment to our club is what makes us so successful!

---

## If you are the "Table Topics Master" at a Toastmasters Meeting

### Prior to the Meeting

Your "topics" should tie in with the theme shown on the schedule.

The questions/topics should be ones which each member will be able to answer easily. The intent of the Table Topics is not to stump people, but rather to allow them to respond to your question confidently and easily.

### During the Meeting

Review the agenda, and look around the room to check off members who are not scheduled for any tasks. These are the people you should probably ask to present a Table Topic. Know whom you are going to ask before you take control of the meeting.

## Themes for 2008-2009

Toastmasters  
International:

### **The Courage to Conquer**

District 42:

### **Impact Your World**

Area 23:

### **Go for Gold (Growth, Opportunity, Learning, DTM)**

Fluor  
Communicators:

### **Facing the Crowd**

**EDITOR:**

**Khawer Subzwari**

When called upon by the Chairperson, approach the front of the room and shake the Chairperson's hand.

Outline the meaning of Table Topics to refresh members' knowledge and also to ensure that guests or new members understand the purpose. Table Topics provides the opportunity for members who are not scheduled to speak to participate in the meeting and also to get people to learn to "think and speak on their feet". Provide the times to the timer (1 minute on green, 1.5 minutes on amber and 2 minutes on red.)

Present your question/topic, you may need to prepare a brief introduction if an explanation or background is required. Be enthusiastic but brief.

When selecting someone, try to select a member who does not have a role in the meeting that day.

Always lead the applause when welcoming the speaker, and make a few brief comments at the conclusion of each table topic. Do not evaluate the table topics.

Depending on the schedule you may have only one or two topics if two speakers are scheduled, or more topics if only one speaker is scheduled. Come prepared with at least four table topics questions even though time may only permit one or two.

Upon completion of the session return the meeting back to the Chairperson by shaking Chairperson's hand.

---

## Mission of Toastmasters International

The Mission of a Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.